

COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT

June 17, 2002

6:45 PM

Chairman O'Neil called the meeting to order.

The Clerk called the roll.

Present: Aldermen O'Neil, Wihby, Shea, Smith, Lopez
Aldermen Osborne and Forest also in attendance.

Messrs.: Robert MacKenzie, Sam Maranto, Fred Ruscsek, and
Tim Soucy, Bruce Thomas

Chairman O'Neil addressed item 3 of the agenda:

3. Resolution and budget authorization authorizing acceptance and expenditure of funds in the amount of \$6,000 for 2001 CIP 411001 Weed & Seed Coordinators

On motion of Alderman Smith, duly seconded by Alderman Lopez, it was voted to approve the resolution and budget authorization.

Chairman O'Neil addressed item 4 of the agenda:

4. Resolution and budget authorization authorizing acceptance and expenditure of funds in the amount of \$20,000 for 2002 CIP 711302 - LED Replacement Program.

On motion of Alderman Wihby, duly seconded by Alderman Shea, it was voted to approve the resolution and budget authorization.

Chairman O'Neil addressed item 5 of the agenda:

5. 2002 CIP Budget Authorizations:
 - 610002 Building Improvement Program/Tech. Asst.
 - 610202 CBSD Capital Replacement - Revision #1
 - 610402 Building Improvement Program Completion

On motion of Alderman Lopez, duly seconded by Alderman Smith, it was voted to approve the 2002 CIP budget authorizations.

Chairman O'Neil advised that item 6 would be addressed at the end of the meeting due to a presentation being made.

Chairman O'Neil addressed item 7 of the agenda:

7. Communication from Bruce Thomas, Engineering Manager, seeking approval to complete work on Elmwood Avenue as part of the City's Chronic Drain Program to be funded out of balances in the program.

Alderman Smith moved to approve the request relative to the Chronic Drain Program. Alderman Shea duly seconded the motion.

Alderman Wihby asked what is the priority on this has? I know it's an Aldermanic request but did you have others you wanted to do and jumped this in front of it.

Mr. Thomas replied we do have a whole long list of chronic drain projects all of which need to be done and all similar to this one...big puddle on the side of the road, this one happens to be on a cul-de-sac...we think that it needs to get done and in the grand scope of things it's not an expensive project, relative easy and a good fill in project for our crews.

Chairman O'Neil called for a vote on the motion to approve. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

Chairman O'Neil addressed item 8 of the agenda:

8. Copy of a communication from Ron Ludwig, PR&C Director, advising of a potential LCHIP Grant which would assist in the planning and development of the Valley Street Cemetery Master Plan.

On motion of Alderman Lopez, duly seconded by Alderman Shea, it was voted to approve Park's applying for the grant.

Chairman O'Neil addressed item 9 of the agenda:

9. Communication from Robert MacKenzie, Director of Planning, advising of both the City's Police and Fire Departments potential eligibility of receiving funding from the State Attorney General's Office and State Department of Justice relating to domestic preparedness.

On motion of Alderman Shea, duly seconded by Alderman Wihby, it was voted to approve applying for said grant.

Chairman O'Neil asked, Bob, do you know if we're going for...I've been told that around the State other communities have been getting money and I'm not even sure that we've been applying for it. Are we aggressively going after all money that's out there?

Mr. MacKenzie replied yes we are. This is actually the first large round of funds that have come out of some of the anti-terrorism efforts.

Chairman O'Neil stated there have been some other public safety funds in the past that other communities have gotten that we haven't even applied for. Specifically, with the Fire service side.

Mr. MacKenzie stated they have received some grants but if you're aware of certain other grants that they might not have gotten we could certainly check.

Chairman O'Neil asked could you please check with both...we no longer have two public service agencies, we have three now with Health. Can we make sure that CIP staff work with those three agencies (Fire, Health and Police) to make sure that we're applying for all of the money that's out there.

Mr. MacKenzie replied in the affirmative.

Chairman O'Neil called for a vote on the motion to approve making application for the grant. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

Chairman O'Neil addressed item 6 of the agenda:

6. Communication from Fred Ruscsek, Public Health Director, advising of the pending receipt of three federal grants to address public health preparedness and seeking authorization to accept and expend funds as intended.

Mr. Rusczek stated we would just like to go over quickly what is a significant grant coming in for the Health Department or it's actually three significant grants. Two of the grants: the Health Alert Network Equipment for \$3,000 and the Health Alert Network Development Grant for \$42,200 have been in the works for several months and the money was actually authorized by the Federal government prior to 9/11. Those are currently...one of them we have already received a contract from the Community Health Institute who is handling the grant for the State Health Department and for the second one, the \$42,200 we're anticipating the contract any day. The largest grant which we're anticipating to come in at \$985,000 since we've gotten preliminary approval of our proposal from the State Health Department...we're awaiting word on that, that money was just received by the State and is yet to go through the Governor and Executive Council and so it will be sometime in the next few weeks that we'll hear definitely what the final amount is. We will definitely be getting money. Even though we don't have it in hand yet, we wanted to come before the Committee today so that we can facilitate the process and move right onto it when the money does become available. Across the country we're all, I guess, beginning to wake up to two facts. One of them is things like terrorism are affecting our national security and equal to that is that we have many emerging infectious diseases. In the last 20 years there have been 20 newly emerged infectious diseases. So, we've been busy with a lot of that anyhow as has been the rest of the country and at the same time we've seen a resurgence of some of our prior public health concerns that we had conquered (i.e., tuberculosis for one). We just last year completed a plan in the event that we have a flu epidemic again. In our world today, we can be anyplace in a matter of 24-hour so we've got to try and keep an eye on what's happening around the world and as we grow as a society and as a community we're seeing newly emerging environmental concerns. So, back in 2000 before 9/11 the first Kennedy Bill brought together support from both sides of the aisle in Congress and passed the Public Health Threats and Emergencies Act which was funded after 9/11; that is the bill that is precipitating the award to Manchester to enhance our public health capabilities. This bill was further enhanced by the Public Health Security and Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Act of 2002; that bill was just enacted with very, very strong, almost unanimous support from both sides of the aisles and in Congress just before Memorial Day. So, the point is that the funding for this will continue for at least five years and I'm not seeing some of the public health issues abating probably for many years after that. This is very secure funding but we are setting everything up as a project to make certain that should the funding go, we are not establishing a liability for the City. Today, public health is at the center of community disease prevention efforts as well as on the front lines for bioterrorism response. Our public health problems require that we put together community-wide strategies. We've always worked closely with hospitals and health care providers and police and fire, but it's taken on a whole new meaning

today with bioterrorism and the growth of some of our communicable diseases. And, I'll tell you that we enjoy a wonderful working relationship with both Fire, Police, our hospitals and community health care providers. One of the great rewards we have in our job is that we have a nice working relationship and that's very important when there's a concern any day of the week. So, again, we're anticipating that we're going to be getting about \$1 million in, the \$45,200 is already committed...that will help establish a computer system and the Health Alert Network is the vehicle by which we will be communicating with our public health partners in the community and sharing information about diseases and specific cases in Manchester with the rest of the public health world. The \$985,000, again, we're waiting to hear any day. The objectives of the Health Alert Network grant would be to strengthen the communications, the Health Alert Network, as I said, is a piece of the public health and health care provider communications system. Currently, the Health Department has a satellite dish on the roof of the building we're in and we down link updates from the Center for Disease Control or other places around the country and providers come in, the hospitals might come in and watch the updates with us. If not, we take them and send them on to important providers in the community. The largest part of the grant will be so that we can develop an integrated community plan for response to bioterrorism, outbreaks of infectious disease, and other public health emergencies. The grant will enable us to enhance our epidemiology capacity and strengthen and expend the Health Alert Network. The grant will also strength our coordination and the education and the training that we provide for key health, hospital, health care and other public health partners; that includes the training that we can do for our public safety folks within our Police and Fire Departments. One of the new aspects of this grant is that the country is looking to the fire system as a way of looking at issues like mutual aid and support to surrounding communities. Manchester will have considerable technical expertise from the grant funded individuals who will be able to answer questions to area communities while not taking on liabilities for services within the communities. An example would be that if there is a case of meningitis in a child who goes to West High School will be involved actively in the investigation of the case even if the case exists in Bedford or another surrounding community. The geographic boundaries for Manchester are no longer a good definition for public health issues. While if you look at the areas served by the hospitals, it's an area much larger than Manchester, the hospital service area as it's known...as we begin to coordinate our work with the area hospitals we'll also be looking at what's occurring in the communities surrounding Manchester as potential threats to our own community. Some of the things required by the grant...first off, this grant money cannot supplant any existing programs, it can't make up for shortfalls in budgets or anything else. We had to identify weaknesses within the department and meet the requirements of the

grant. One of the most important requirements that they have is that we have to assign a senior staff person to work as a Public Health Preparedness Director and that person will be responsible for putting together a plan looking at the weaknesses in the public health system and closely coordinating those activities with Police and Fire Departments, hospitals, medical providers and community agencies. Today, we have primarily our Environmental Health Division that gets called out at any time 7/24 to respond to environmental emergencies or fires in restaurants or outbreaks. If there is a food borne illness outbreak or an environmentally-related outbreak then Tim Soucy here is the go to guy to get the phone call to say we gotta go. So, there'll be with this not just the work that we've done in the past but we'll be assessing what we're doing and creating a response plan that's improved over what we have. In doing that, we will be increasing responsibilities for some of our folks. The Environmental Health Supervisor, Tim Soucy, will be the person who will be charged with the responsibility of putting together that plan. Our Community Health Supervisor who currently is doing communicable disease control and providing clinical and technical support to the community will work more closely with the hospitals and the surrounding communities to make certain we have a system in place. The funding will enable us to hire a physician with public health expertise. The physician will be responsible for a few things. One of them they will be providing the medical oversight to our School Health Program and our clinical activities. Having a physician on board will also enable us to capture some Medicaid reimbursement money that we haven't been able to without a physician. But, primarily for the purposes of this grant that physician will open the communication to ensure both the training of other medical providers in the community, but also to be part of the diagnosis around infectious diseases and I'm sure we'll work closely with the infectious disease consultants who are currently from Elliot and CMC and folks that we work very closely with now. The grant money will also provide two masters in public health level Public Health Specialists. One will be responsible for establishing the Health Alert Network and writing the plan and putting together all of the nuts and bolts of the plan, in other words, coordinating the day-to-day work for Tim Soucy. We'll be able to hire a person who's skilled as an epidemiologist who we'll also look to as being the computer and technology coordinator. A big piece of this legislation is to bring technology to the field of public health where we're not up to the rest of the private sector and elsewhere. We'll have funding to add another Environmental Health Specialist, a person who will be actively involved in environmental investigations and we'll have funding to add another Community Health Nurse to deal particularly with the communicable disease investigations. We have a lot of experience dealing with communicable disease investigations now. We are by far the largest Health Department in this state and the most active in communicable disease investigations. Each year we investigate somewhere between 80 and 100

communicable diseases. We are very aggressive in our communicable disease work, we do things like direct observe therapy for tuberculosis, we make about 2,000 home visits per year for tuberculosis control. So, the addition of a Community Health Nurse will be welcome support and again part of our role will be educating others in the community and the funding will also provide for an Administrative Assistant to support this work. Equipment and Resources -- we will be getting enhanced communications equipment. One of the wonderful things about the world today is we can be found wherever we are at any time by a variety of different vehicle whether it be cellular phones or beepers, but we'll have the capability to get to anywhere from 8 to 12 key staff at any given time of day should there be an emergency where they are needed. The funding right now we're looking at it supporting an additional automobile for the Environmental Health Specialist...like other city vehicles this automobile will be set up with the response equipment in the trunk and the ability to carry equipment and what have you. We'll have some additional laboratory equipment, if you will, it's actually field equipment that will enable us to quickly discern chemical exposures, it's work that we're coordinating with the Fire Department Hazardous Materials team. By the way, over the past few years Tim Soucy has worked closely with Police and Fire in developing what we do to make certain that whatever we do fits under the City's emergency operations plans, so that we're all moving as a team. There will be funding to support some facility improvements...a generator so that should power go down we would be able to keep operational, a vaccine storage refrigerator and pharmaceutical storage. One of the great concerns is we are fearing that at some point there will be, we the country, is fearing that at some point it's not out of the realm of possibilities that we have intentionally induced smallpox outbreak and a facility like a health department will become the place where masses of folks could go to get vaccinations and it will also be a place where there will be a planned drop shipment, if you will, of the push packs that are being prepared across the country for ready response to an outbreak or terrorism event. There will be training money involved here as well and additional computers and software. It's a pretty elaborate grant that helps us meet many of our needs. For us, staff development is going to become a very key part of what we do. We realize that it's very important that we prepare the folks who work for us to be able to respond to anything that might occur. One positive thing that occurred in Manchester over the past couple of years is the opening of the Master and Public Health Program from UNH right down the street on the Manchester campus of UNH. It will be very easy to access training nearby now and we've been able to use the satellite down link to get a lot of the current training too which is a tremendous cost savings. Instead of sending someone to a conference, all we have to do is go into another room and bring in a satellite presentation. So, again, in closing this grant will bring improved public health preparedness to the community, it will improve our community response for bioterrorism and other

public health emergencies and it will provide for a greater depth and technical expertise of Health Department staff. And, again, that is key to our future and key to our depth.

Alderman Wihby asked how many new positions total?

Mr. Rusczek replied there would be six new positions.

Alderman Wihby asked where are you going to put them?

Mr. Rusczek replied hopefully we'll be moving.

Alderman Wihby asked if you move on either scenario, do they fit?

Mr. Rusczek replied they don't fit...well, the two scenarios up at the Rines Center...the one scenario with the Elderly Center up there is awfully confining for the Health Department. My concern will not be whether or not we find a corner to put people in, but whether or not we will have adequate space for things like vaccine shipments and stuff. To me, it's too small. The plan that has Health, Office of Youth Services and Welfare Department is a more appropriate layout and space plan for the Health Department.

Alderman Wihby asked how long is this grant for, one year?

Mr. Rusczek replied no. The grant is looking today...the grant funding is authorized out five years. This does not look like grant money that's going to go away. The Congress has determined that rebuilding a public health infrastructure is going to be a multi-year task.

Alderman Wihby asked is there any percentage, I know when Police come to us we have to give 10% or something...is there any number that you're looking for other than general fund in order to do this grant?

Mr. Rusczek replied no. The only commitment from the City would be the space to house these folks...there's money for desks and chairs and everything else as well.

Alderman Shea stated I wanted to go along with what Alderman Wihby said about spacing up at the Rines Center...it's your strong conviction that because of the expansion of the health services within the community, not only in terms of this project, but possibly other demands that will be upon you because of the reaction

of the community towards these programs what you're indicating is that there will not be enough space, in your opinion, for the seniors to be housed there with the Health Department in terms of equal spacing and future needs, is that correct?

Mr. Rusczek replied that is correct. Nobody can foretell the future, Alderman, but just from our experience we're bringing on additional staff and as the community and the area grows and Manchester becomes more of the central area for a larger population base, unfortunately, I don't see public health going down in size. So, to design something that we can just squeeze in today, I think would be shortsighted.

Alderman Shea stated another concern I would have would be the storage of vaccines and other products that may or may not be of danger or exposure to people that are elderly or may (for whatever reasons) accidents occur or something like that; that is another potential problem in your opinion or could be.

Mr. Rusczek replied I don't think there would be a problem of anybody getting ill from exposure to vaccines that are within the building, but what we'll have is perhaps some incompatible mixed uses. If we have to run an immunization clinic and currently today we provide immunizations to between 6,500 and 7,000, but if we have to run an immunization clinic for a mass number of people over a period of months it will be very difficult, I think, to house both within the same building.

Alderman Smith stated the grant funds are for five years and six new positions, what happens after if the grants expires in three or four years, do we assume the costs?

Mr. Rusczek replied what we've set up is that it will be a clean break between what's City and what's grant funded. As we do with full-time grant funded people...let me go back. When we receive money, if we were to receive \$10,000 for TB control and we can apply it to existing staff and reassign a person or pay for something that we are already doing that money comes into the City budget as revenue. If we have a clean break in a project as we do here the funding gets set up as a project, so that everybody can track to make certain that we're not trying to charge it off to the City. I don't see this money ending even after five years. If we forget bioterrorism we still have the concerns of a large number of emerging infectious diseases. The support for this at the congressional level is almost unanimous. There is tremendous support on both sides of the aisle...Republicans with Senator Frist and Democrats with Senator Kennedy. My guess is that we're going to see this as support for many years to come. An example...another Federal program is the Homeless Healthcare Program. When the funding first came in in the mid 80's that too was a three-year grant and kind of shaky as to

whether or not that would be reauthorized. Well, we're now into that program by about 15 years, we contract with outside services for it, but that too is a clean separate program from the Health Department so we know where the expenses are. I don't see that program disappearing soon either.

Alderman Smith stated to follow-up on Alderman Shea's question, how many employees in the Health Department counting your accountants, custodians, etc. how many do you have if you're moving up the Rines Center because you said spacing was a problem.

Mr. Rusczek replied there will be about 40 that will be housed within the Health Department. We have about 30 to 33 of our staff are School Nurses who only come into the office one day per week, but beyond the number of people we have our role as a public health department brings a lot of folks to us. Currently, we're meeting in the Verizon building across the street from the Health Department because we don't have the facility and space, we do have the use of a room within the building to convene our staff but the new facility should be large enough so that if we need to bring together health care providers or should we need to use the facility for a second emergency operations center we'll have that capability for the City.

Alderman Smith asked how many people or citizens would be utilizing your Health Department up at the Rines Center, if it goes up there, on a daily basis... space and cars...that's what I'm looking at and parking?

Mr. Rusczek replied we receive about 30,000 visits per year for anything from food permits to TB or sexually transmitted disease clinic or AIDS testing...a few years ago we put a mobile public health van out on the street, so we are able to see some of the people there. Our current facilities are not ADA accessible and for those who have been in it, it's pretty old.

Alderman Lopez stated I think we all were on the same line with our questions, but I have one other question that's intrigued me...you said Manchester no longer Manchester...in accepting this particular grant are we going to become a center for the outlying areas to come into the City of Manchester and receive and services that maybe the small towns don't have?

Mr. Rusczek replied it's a danger if we allow it to happen. Right now, people do come in for HIV tests which are largely...the program is largely funded, primarily funded with federal and state money and immunizations is another example, it's provided from the outside, the immunizations come free to us from the state so we provide that, but we've got to be very mindful of the fact that what's paid for by

City taxpayers goes to City taxpayers and we have been, we are very, very careful on that. A second part of the answer though is it's not inconceivable that down the road ten years or so as the State joins other states in developing a public health infrastructure that there may be more state funding come and the establishment of a city/county health departments...are common across the country or city/regional health department(s) so that our work is kind of tied closely to the hospital services areas and others...that's not in the works now, but I think that's part of what needs to get studied for where should we be 10 years from now. If that happens, very likely, that could take some of the burden off of Manchester taxpayers. Currently today because Manchester is the largest City in the State, we are paying about \$10 per capita for public health services. If you go to other small communities the investment that they have to make in public health services is probably under a dollar per capita and we do track that information because we believe that life should be fair; that some of our needs that we have in Manchester impact the State and so we have always aggressively gone for outside funding when we can.

Alderman Lopez stated to follow-up, once this sophisticated mushroom comes in the City of Manchester with this particular grant if Bedford would come to you and say can we be part of you, do you recoup money from Bedford?

Mr. Rusczek replied if such an inter-municipal agreement were to occur it would require State legislation and authorization here before the BMA and dialogue. Those discussions, I believe, are occurring somewhat in Nashua now. We don't see that as something that is on our radar screen at this point. Again, for things that might impact Manchester like a communicable disease case, yes, we share the risk there but to go and provide services to say make food inspections in Goffstown that's not even in our sites now.

Chairman O'Neil stated, Fred, I just want to clarify and hopefully we're not spending too much time on this space but I just want to make sure I understand you. In the Rines Center, as proposed, with the senior center it does not allow you the space needed to implement this program, correct.

Mr. Rusczek replied correct. The other piece is we'd be split up in so many different places in the Rines Center...we're a public department so if someone comes in for a food permit we need to have a receptionist and that would be my concern there too.

Chairman O'Neil stated the second point...without the senior center there is enough room to implement the current needs with this program.

Mr. Rusczek replied right. We will all be on one floor and...

Chairman O'Neil stated the architect that did the preliminary design realized that this grant was coming and that's all figured in with enough storage space, etc.

Mr. Rusczek replied that is correct.

Chairman O'Neil asked is there anything we can do to help in getting...obviously, you are going to need to work with the Human Resources Committee to get some of these positions created, have you started drafting job descriptions in that and how soon before you're ready to go before the HR Committee?

Mr. Rusczek replied this was our first step. We hope that we'll then have Board of Mayor and Aldermen authorization to accept this money and expedite the process. The Federal government has asked that we expedite it...everything that we can as a matter of national security. The next step we've already begun working on and that's taken the concept and the grant and fine tuning it and putting a work plan and a business plan together showing the costs over a 5-year period and how it's going to be covered by the grants. There will be Human Resources work required to get a couple of our folks to market level and we have documentation support and again it's funding from the outside and establish a new job description such as the Public Health Physician.

Chairman O'Neil stated you're moving in that direction.

Mr. Rusczek replied we're moving in that direction. Our base that we're trying to retain is currently the Health Department has six supervisory staff for our department which is a ratio of 1 to 12. We want to not expand administration or management but put it all into direct services.

Alderman Wihby stated you said you preferred the scenario for the space, which one did you prefer?

Mr. Rusczek replied the first scenario for the Health Department would be the scenario that had the Health Department, Welfare Department and Office of Youth Services.

Alderman Wihby stated and then the senior center on the west side.

Mr. Rusczek stated the senior center wherever.

Alderman Wihby asked wasn't there another proposal that the senior center would go into the Rines Center along with Youth Services and Welfare...wasn't that a scenario too?

Mr. MacKenzie replied yes, I think so.

Alderman Wihby asked where was Health in that case?

Mr. MacKenzie replied that was briefly discussed but I know there was real concern by the seniors about that option, so it was never laid out or costed.

Alderman Wihby stated so we don't know where Health was going in that case either, you never got that far.

Mr. MacKenzie replied correct.

Alderman Lopez asked in reference to the people that you are talking about... become City employees. Does that \$1 million cover all of the benefits and everything?

Mr. Rusczek replied yes.

Alderman Shea asked when do you envision this situation coming to some sort of initiation in terms of say...August or September...

Mr. Rusczek replied hopefully by September. One of our challenges is going to be finding qualified staff...all across the country and all across the state we're looking for the same staff...we're hoping to have people on board by September because we have some grant requirements that we're going to have to do...in six months we have to have a draft plan.

Alderman Shea asked are you required to get everyone on board at once or can you bring in people as you find them and get approval for them, is that...?

Mr. Rusczek replied it's going to be as we find them.

Deputy Clerk Johnson stated if the Committee wanted to proceed, I know he's asking for authorization to accept and expend the funds as intended, basically it would require a resolution and in speaking with Mr. MacKenzie they would be able to submit a resolution for the next Board meeting, if the Committee approves it they will get together with Health and try and come up with a figure that would potentially cover the grant and then the budget authorizations, I think, would

probably be best served if the Committee refers those directly to the Finance Committee as they get approval of the funds then the CIP budget authorizations could even be done through poll of the Finance Committee if need be in order to get it done quickly.

Alderman Shea moved to the Clerk's recommendation. Alderman Smith duly seconded the motion. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

TABLED ITEMS

Chairman O'Neil asked, Ron, are you ready to do anything on the country club are you?

Mr. Johnson replied no we're still negotiating.

10. Derryfield Restaurant/Clubhouse Proposal.
(Tabled 5/14/02)

This item remained on the table.

11. Lowell Terrace Associates request for a mortgage/debt consolidation for property on Lowell and Chestnut Streets.
(Tabled 2/12/02)

Alderman Lopez moved to remove item 11 from the table for discussion.

Chairman O'Neil asked are you going to do anything with it tonight.

Alderman Lopez replied if I get the answer.

Chairman O'Neil stated I think we had suggested that when things slowed down a little bit we could spend a whole night on that one. So, we can set...I don't know people's...Carol and I talked about this last week, I don't know what vacation time is, who's around next month, who's around in August, but we talked about trying to come up with a date a month or two down the road.

Chairman Lopez agreed.

Chairman O'Neil asked are folks around in August, anyone on vacation in August? Bob, could staff be ready by sometime in August? I know staff needed to do some work on this.

Mr. MacKenzie replied primarily it has been the Finance Department...

Deputy Clerk Johnson interjected the Finance Officer and the Jay Taylor are the ones who were working on this.

Chairman O'Neil stated why don't we set the September meeting that this will be brought up at and will try to lighten the load as best we can for that meeting and give everyone plenty of time for the second Tuesday or are we running into election, Carol?

Deputy Clerk Johnson replied the second Tuesday is definitely the election, so we're going to have to be scheduling it around a couple of elections at that time.

Chairman O'Neil stated the Clerk will work on trying to find a date in September and we'll take it up that evening.

Alderman Shea moved to the Chairman's recommendation of a date in September. Alderman Wihby duly seconded the motion. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

This item remained on the table.

NEW BUSINESS

Chairman O'Neil stated Alderman Forest has had one item that he's mentioned to me several times and requested Alderman Forest to address the Committee.

Alderman Forest stated what I want to bring up is the fact and you are all aware that when the budget was passed that someone or whatever...no money was put in for police cruisers and what I'm asking this Committee is to see if you can find a way, it doesn't have to be done tonight, but see if you can find a way to come up with some money so the Manchester Police can get some of the cruisers. Ideally, 10 would be great, but I think what they need is some of the cruisers that have to be replaced and I was just wondering if somebody or somewhere...

Chairman O'Neil stated I have spoken to Mr. MacKenzie about this and my suggestion would be why don't we ask the Planning Director, the Police Chief and Public Works does have some responsibility with fleet, is that correct, is it Kevin Sheppard, the Deputy Public Works Director...why don't we ask the three of them to meet to take a look at a short-term solution to trying to get some Police cruisers as well as maybe they can talk to some other communities and see how they've

addressed this issue. I would guess that a lot of cities across the region are going through tough budget times as we are, but yet they're still able to purchase Police cruisers. So, maybe there's some creative way of doing it that we haven't had a chance to take a look at.

Alderman Smith moved to the Chairman's recommendation. Alderman Shea duly seconded the motion. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

Chairman O'Neil requested staff report back on the short-term if we are able to pick up a couple cruisers or four and maybe come up with more of a long-term solution.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, on motion of Alderman Shea, duly seconded by Alderman Smith, it was voted to adjourn.

A True Record. Attest.

Clerk of Committee